1	2
Orissa	71
Rajasthan	65
Uttar Pradesh	69
Andhra Pradesh	54
Karnataka	47
Kerala	13
Tamil Nadu	35
Gujarat	52
Haryana	55
Maharashtra	34
Punjab	43
West Bengal	37
Jammu and Kashmir	51
Himachal	47

Source: Registrar General of India Sample Registration System

Testing of adulteration in food items

†198. SHRI LALIT KISHORE CHATURVEDI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Government and non-Government laboratories, capable of testing of adulteration in food items, throughout the country; State-wise details thereof under Food Security and Standard Act 2006;

(b) testing fee to be charged in these laboratories, the extent to which this fee will be more or less against the one payable at present; and

(c) whether microbiological, antioxidant preservative emulsifier tests will be possible within 14 days prescribed for sample testing?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) There are 72 States and Central Government Food Testing Laboratories under the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act 1954 and Rules 1955. The Section 43 of Food Safety and Standard Act, 2006 relating to *inter-alia* establishment as well as notification of laboratories for testing of food articles and fee chargeable therefor is yet to be enforced.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) The samples of food can be tested for analysis of antioxidants, preservatives and microbiological tests within 14 days but in some cases microbiological tests may take some more time.

Anthrax prevention measures

199. SHRIMATI T. RATNA BAI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether people are dying due to anthrax in every State especially in the agency areas like East Godavari, West Godavari, Visakhapatnam and Khammam rural areas in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) the funds being released and spent for this purpose; and

(e) what steps Government will take to prevent it early by taking precautions and creating awareness among the people in rural agency areas?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) No. In Andhra Pradesh human anthrax cases are reported only from Visakhapatnam District.

(b) and (c) 18 confirmed human anthrax cases with 3 deaths among 75 suspected anthrax cases have been reported from Visakhapatnam District which is due to handling and consumption of deceased animals.

(d) As informed by the Government of Andhra Pradesh, no funds have been released for this purpose. However, the funds required to tackle this disease are being arranged by them from the regular budgetary allocations. For supplementing State Government's efforts in controlling animal diseases (including anthrax), funds are also being provided by Ministry of Agriculture, Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries to states under centrally sponsored scheme 'Assistance to States for Control of Animal Diseases (ASCAD)'.

(e) The State Government has informed that their Health Department, in coordination with Animal Husbandry, Panchayath Raj and Revenue Departments, is taking all possible preventive and control measures and creating awareness among the people in rural agency areas.

Opening of equipped hospitals in rural areas

200. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there are only 34 per cent hospitals which can find diseases at an early stage by doing medical check-ups in rural areas;

(b) if so, the reasons for such low percentage in rural areas; and

(c) the number of such hospitals to be constructed in the current year, State-wise, especially in Andhra Pradesh?